conspiracy to violate, any provision of section 2303 of this title may sue therefor in the appropriate district court of the United States without respect to the amount in controversy, and shall recover damages sustained. In any action commenced pursuant to this subsection, the court may allow the prevailing party a reasonable attorney's fee as a part of the costs. Any action to enforce any cause of action under this subsection shall be forever barred unless commenced within two years after the cause of action accrued.

# (d) Federal jurisdiction; exhaustion of other remedies; State laws and jurisdiction unaffected

The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction of proceedings instituted pursuant to this section and shall exercise the same without regard to whether the aggrieved party shall have exhausted any administrative or other remedies that may be provided by law.

The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to change or modify existing State law nor to deprive the proper State courts of jurisdiction.

(Pub. L. 90–288, §6, Apr. 16, 1968, 82 Stat. 95.)

### § 2306. Separability

2371.

If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the chapter and of the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

(Pub. L. 90-288, §7, Apr. 16, 1968, 82 Stat. 95.)

#### CHAPTER 57—PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

# SUBCHAPTER I—PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

### PART A—ORGANIZATION AND PUBLICATIONS

Sec.	
2321.	Establishment.
2322.	Seal.
2323.	Organization.
2324.	Restrictions on employees as to interest in plant variety protection.
2325.	Repealed.
2326.	Regulations.
2327.	Plant Variety Protection Board.
	(a) Appointment.
	(b) Functions of Board.
	(c) Compensation of Board.
2328.	Library.
2329.	Register of protected plant varieties.
2330.	Publications.
2331.	Copies for public libraries.
PART B-	LEGAL PROVISIONS AS TO THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE
2351.	Day for taking action falling on Saturday, Sunday, or holiday.
2352.	Form of papers filed.
2353.	Testimony in Plant Variety Protection Office cases.
2354.	Subpoenas; witnesses.
2355.	Effect of defective execution.
2356.	Regulations for practice before the Office.
2357.	Unauthorized practice.
PART C—PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION FEES	

Plant variety protection fees.

(a) In general.

Sec.

- (b) Late payment penalty.
- (c) Disposition of funds.
- (d) Actions for nonpayment.
- (e) Authorization of appropriations.

2372. Payment of plant variety protection fees; return of excess amounts.

## SUBCHAPTER II—PROTECTABILITY OF PLANT VARIETIES AND CERTIFICATES OF PROTECTION

#### PART D—PROTECTABILITY OF PLANT VARIETIES

- 2401. Definitions and rules of construction.
  - (a) Definitions.
  - (b) Rules of construction.
- 2402. Right to plant variety protection; plant varieties protectable.
  - (a) In general.
  - (b) Multiple applicants.
- 2403. Reciprocity limits.
- 2404. Public interest in wide usage.

# PART E—APPLICATIONS; FORM; WHO MAY FILE; RELATING BACK; CONFIDENTIALITY

- 2421. Application for recognition of plant variety
- 2422. Content of application.
- 2423. Joint breeders.
- 2424. Death or incapacity of breeder.
- 2425. Benefit of earlier filing date.
- 2426. Confidential status of application.
- 2427. Publication.

### PART F—EXAMINATIONS; RESPONSE TIME; INITIAL APPEALS

- 2441. Examination of application.
- 2442. Notice of refusal; reconsideration.
- 2443. Initial appeal.

### PART G-APPEALS TO COURTS AND OTHER REVIEW

- 2461. Appeals.
- 2462. Civil action against Secretary.
- 2463. Repealed.

### PART H—CERTIFICATES OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

- 2481. Plant variety protection.
- 2482. How issued.
- 2483. Contents and term of plant variety protection.
  - (a) Certificate.
  - (b) Term
  - (b) Term.(c) Expiration upon failure to comply with regulations; notice.
- 2484. Correction of Plant Variety Protection Office mistake.
- $2485. \hspace{1.5cm} \hbox{Correction of applicant's mistake}.$
- 2486. Correction of named breeder.

## PART I—REEXAMINATION AFTER ISSUE, AND CONTESTED PROCEEDINGS

- 2501. Reexamination after issue.
- 2502, 2503. Repealed.
- 2504. Interfering plant variety protection.

## SUBCHAPTER III—PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION AND RIGHTS

### PART J—OWNERSHIP AND ASSIGNMENT

- 2531. Ownership and assignment.
- 2532. Ownership during testing.

## PART K—INFRINGEMENT OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

- 2541. Infringement of plant variety protection.
  - (a) Acts constituting infringement.
  - (b) Uses authorized by owner.
  - (c) Applicability to certain plant varieties.
  - (d) Acts not considered infringing.